IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

YTSEN WIELSTRA ET AL

NL010052

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

METHOD OF PREPARING A LACQUER COMPOSITION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. A lacquer composition, obtainable by a method comprising the steps of mixing together an organosilane compound and silica particles under basic conditions, wherein a metal alkoxide is added to the reaction mixture.
- 2. A lacquer composition according according to claim 1, wherein the metal alkoxide is a zirconium alkoxide, an aluminum alkoxide, a titanium alkoxide or a mixture thereof.
- 3. A lacquer composition according to claim 1, wherein the metal alkoxide comprises a metal diketonate.
- 4. A lacquer composition according to claim 1, wherein the organosilane compound is an epoxysilane.
- 5. A lacquer composition according to claim 4, wherein the epoxysilane is 3-glycidyloxypropyltrimethoxysilane.

